

Town of Southampton



Light Pollution

What is it?

Why does it matter?

What can we do to help?



Planning Division
116 Hampton Road
Southampton, NY 11968



www.town.southampton.ny.us

Light Pollution

GLARE

At night, seeing a light source directly can disable your vision. Blinds drivers, boaters, and pedestrians.



SKYGLOW

Obscures the stars in the night sky.



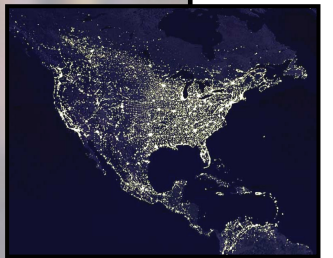
LIGHT TRESPASS

Misdirected lighting may cross property boundaries and disturb you or your neighbors.



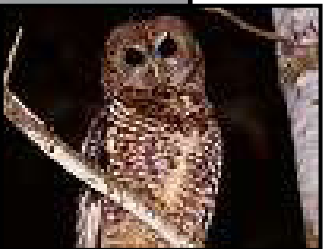
WASTED ENERGY

Costs you and your government money and pollutes our environment.



DISRUPTED ECOSYSTEMS

Unnatural lighting patterns lead to sickness and even death for some plants and animals.



WISE OUTDOOR LIGHTING

LIGHT POLLUTION

costs Americans an estimated \$4.5 billion per year in wasted electrical energy, consuming millions of barrels of oil and millions of tons of coal, releasing millions of tons of pollutants into the air. Wasted light is expensive in many ways. We pay the price with unhealthy air, water, and land and higher municipal taxes.

BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR and SAVE \$\$ EVERY YEAR

•USE OUTDOOR LIGHTING ONLY WHEN AND WHERE IT IS NEEDED.

Experiment with turning off outdoor lighting after 11 pm.

•POINT LIGHTS DOWNWARD.

Direct spotlights and floodlights toward the ground and turn them off by 11 pm.

•REDUCE WATTAGE.

Brighter is not necessarily better. Change to a lower wattage bulb. Use 40 watt incandescent or 9 watt compact fluorescent bulbs.

•USE TIMERS OR MOTION SENSORS.

Turn on lighting only as needed. Left on all night, the common two-headed floodlight costs \$225 per year in electricity. *

•USE FULLY SHIELDED OR FULL - CUTOFF FIXTURES.

This directs all light downward and protects the night sky and your relationship with your neighbors. (See drawings at right.)

•USE COMPACT FLUORESCENT BULBS.

Use "Energy Smart" compact fluorescent light bulbs in all outdoor fixtures.

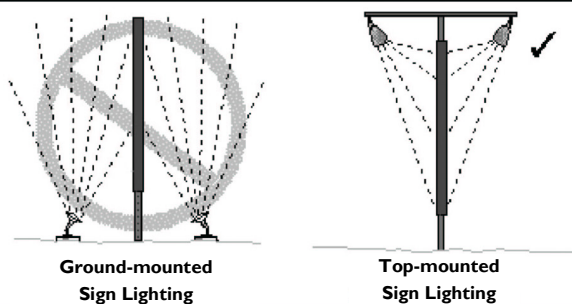
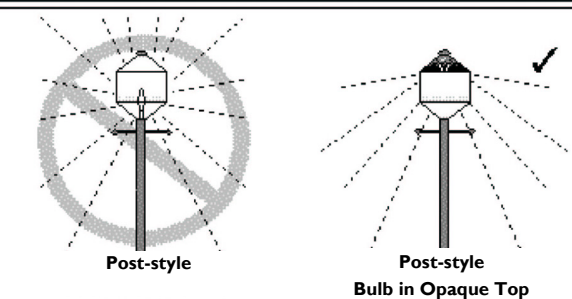
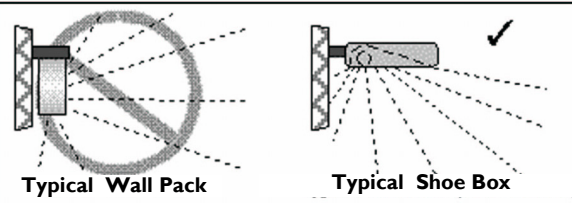
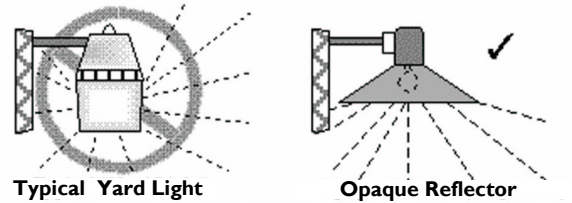
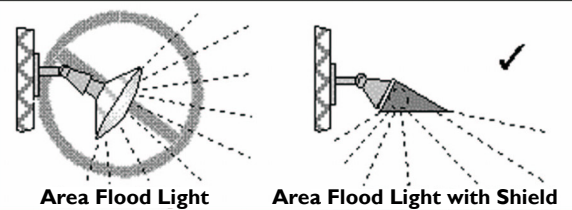
*At a rate of 16.37 cents/kwh, based on 2004 average of the residential LIPA bill in Suffolk County.

Good Outdoor Lighting

Directs Light Downward

Bad

Good



OUTDOOR LIGHTING IN SOUTHAMPTON

Outdoor Lighting Guidelines for Southampton Town

Outdoor Lighting Guidelines have been created to provide information on how to reduce light pollution in order to increase your safety, provide security, save energy and preserve the ability to view the stars against a dark night sky.

These Guidelines were developed using professional lighting standards and are available at Southampton Town Hall, Planning Division, and online at www.town.southampton.ny.us

Town Lighting

Southampton now requires that all outdoor lighting on Town properties be Dark Skies friendly, using fully shielded or full cutoff fixtures to prevent excessive lighting, energy waste, glare, light trespass and skyglow.

The Town of Southampton is doing its part to reduce light pollution on its municipal buildings and roads.

The pictures below were taken at the new Southampton Town Community Center in Hampton Bays. The left picture was taken when unshielded light fixtures were used at the Center. Notice the excessive light and light trespass.

The right picture was taken after the unshielded fixtures were changed to fully shielded lamps. Light trespass and glare are significantly reduced.



Please help and use Dark Skies friendly fixtures.

Additional information at www.darksky.org/fixtures/fixtures.html